

- South Holland, IL began to develop a floodplain management program following severe floods in 1990. In 1994, a committee of citizens and government officials recommended 37 actions to reduce flood risk, including small flood-control projects, improvements to the flood response plan, stronger regulatory standards, channel clearing projects and preparations for post-disaster recovery and mitigation efforts. The channel clearing project was carried out by an AmeriCorps service team. The committee also established a Flood Assistance Program to provide public information and technical assistance to property owners. Owners that undertake approved floodproofing measures can qualify for rebates from the town<sup>83</sup>.
- The Massachusetts Rivers Bill (1997) established a 200-foot protective zone around every river in the state. Areas within those boundaries are under the supervision of local conservation commissions, who also have jurisdiction over the state's wetlands.
- Brattleboro, VT, created a set of regulations to govern mobile home parks located in high-risk floodplains. The rules allow park owners to expand outside the floodplain. However, one unit inside the high-hazard area must be permanently removed prior to the owner's receiving permission to add three new units outside the floodplain<sup>84</sup>.
- Dallas, TX, usually requires that subdividers dedicate any portions of a parcel located in the floodplain to the city as a condition of approval. Floodplain areas of apartment parcels can be used as common open space if an easement on the open space is dedicated to the city or maintained as open space by the homeowners' association<sup>85</sup>.
- Instead of developing a floodplain management agency, the Denver Metropolitan Region developed standards for local regulation by its 28 member governments with flood problems. These standards were adopted individually by each locality<sup>86</sup>.

### ***Critique***

Floodplain management plans are less comprehensive than either comprehensive plans or hazard mitigation plans. As a result, they may be more likely to be set aside or overlooked. Floodplain management programs can be foiled by development pressures and a lack of suitable sites outside the floodplain; by a lack of information or monitoring; or by contrary land-use regulations that encourage (rather than discourage) development in the floodplain. Flood hazard risk reduction has often focused narrowly on the protection of structures in the floodplain rather than the preservation of the floodplain's natural functions<sup>87</sup>.

Since floodplains rarely fall within a single jurisdiction, floodplain management is often best addressed through regional governing bodies. Such agreements acknowledge that the flood mitigation actions taken by one community can affect its neighbors, both upstream and down. Such multi-jurisdictional management agreements can be very difficult to achieve.